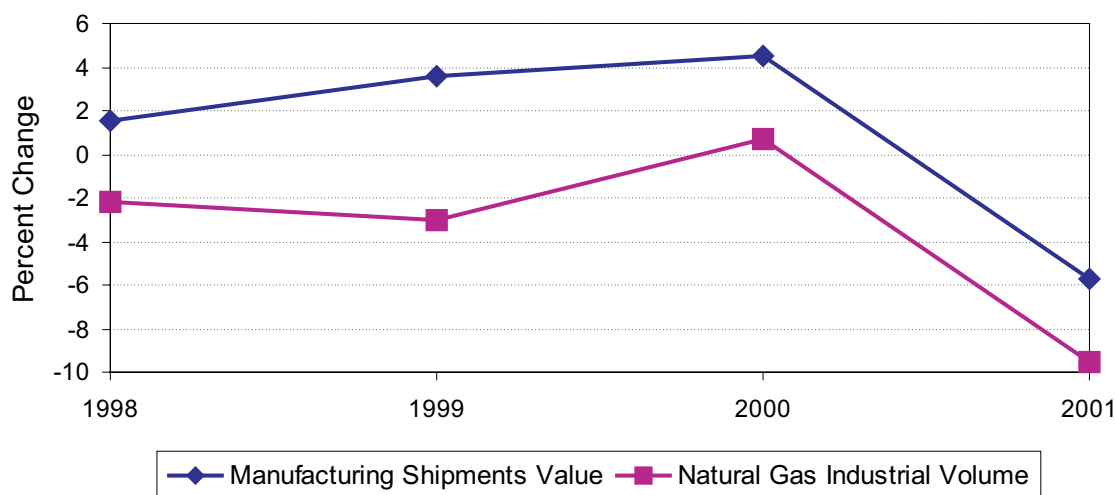


The Same 8 States Accounted for Over 50 Percent of Natural Gas Consumption in Both Residential and Commercial Sectors in 2001

- **Residential and commercial consumption each declined by more than 4 percent in 2001.** One factor—key for residential consumption, and important for commercial—was that temperatures during the year’s heating season months (January-March, November-December) were warmer than normal. Nearly 70 percent of annual residential consumption occurs in these months. Commercial consumption was also affected by the near 28-percent price increase from the previous year, as well as by the general economic downturn. The decline in residential consumption may also have been influenced in part by a 24 percent price increase from 2000.
- **Eight States accounted for over 50 percent of natural gas consumption in both the residential and commercial sectors in 2001 (Figure 2).** These “big 8” States taken together had 2,625 Bcf of consumption in the residential sector, or about 55 percent of the total. These same 8 States (although in a different order by volume) accounted for commercial consumption of 1,579 Bcf, or about 52 percent.
- **Five States accounted for over 83 percent of the decline in commercial consumption in the Lower 48 States.** New York experienced the largest drop in commercial deliveries in the nation in both volume terms (62 Bcf) and as a percent of 2000 deliveries (15 percent). New Jersey, with a drop of nearly 22 Bcf, or 14 percent, experienced the next largest drop. The midwestern States of Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan round out the top 5, each losing around 12 Bcf or more in commercial deliveries.
- **The total number of residential customers grew by over one million (1.7 percent), while total commercial customers grew by 19,305 (less than 1 percent).** In only three States did the number of residential customers decline (Arkansas, Connecticut, and Louisiana); all others including the District of Columbia added residential customers. The net increase in commercial customers was spread over 34 States. For the United States as a whole, on-system sales customers declined in total, with two States (Ohio and Maryland) having relatively large losses of on-system sales customers (almost 25,000 and 18,000, respectively).

Figure 3. Percent Change in Industrial Use of Natural Gas and Value of All Manufacturing Shipments



Source for Value of Shipments: U.S. Census Bureau, Monthly Manufacturers Shipments, Inventories, and Orders (M3) survey, Table 3 (www.census.gov/indicator/www/m3/hist/naicsvsp.xls).